

Message Text

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E.O. 11652 N/A
SUBJECT: MADRID COVERAGE TODMAN PRESS CONFERENCE

1. MADRID JUNE 23 DAILIES CARRY CORRESPONDENTS' REPORTS TODMAN NEW YORK PRESS CONFERENCE. JOSE MARIA CARRASCAL FOR ABC (CONSERVATIVE): "TODMAN IS A MAN OF SPONTANEOUS CORDIALITY WITH A CONTAGIOUS SMILE. AN OPTIMIST WITH HIS FEET ON THE GROUND, AN IDEALIST WHO NEVER LOSES VIEW OF REALITY. WHEN ASKED ABOUT THE ACCUSATIONS OF BEING AGAINST HUMAN RIGHTS OF WHICH HE HAS BEEN THE OBJECT, HE SMILED BEFORE ANSWERING: 'POSSIBLY THEY WERE SPREAD BY THOSE WHO WERE BOTHERED THAT I DEFEND THEM AND WHO SAW NO OTHER WAY TO ATTACK ME.'

2. "HE IS GOING TO BE THE HIGHEST RANKING DIPLOMAT THAN AN AMERICAN ADMINISTRATION HAS EVER SENT TO MADRID. AND HIS LINE TO CARTER IS DIRECT. ASKED WHAT ROLE HE HAD PLAYED AS MUCH IN RESPECT TO SANTO
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DOMINGO -- WHERE IT WAS URGED THAT THE ELECTION RESULTS BE RESPECTED -- AS IN DRAFTING CARTER'S SPEECH OF YESTERDAY -- WHERE HE UNDERLINED HIS HUMAN RIGHTS POLICY IN THE HEMISPHERE -- HE ANSWERED: 'I HAD AN ACTIVE ROLE IN ALL OF THAT, JUST AS IN WHATEVER THE PRESIDENT HAS DONE IN RECENT MONTHS IN RESPECT TO LATIN AMERICA...BUT THIS DOES NOT DEAL WITH OVERTHROW-

ING GOVERNMENTS OR SUPPORTING A GIVEN PARTY, BUT RATHER WITH THE IMPLANTATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS; WE ARE NOT LOOKING TO MAKE A NAME FOR OURSELVES, BUT RATHER TO REALLY LIGHTEN THE CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.'

3. "IN REGARD TO SPAIN, FOR WHOSE DEVELOPMENT HE HAS NOTHING BUT EMPASSIONED PRAISE, HE VIEWS HIS ROLE IN A FRAMEWORK AT THE SAME TIME MODEST AND IMPORTANT: 'TO HELP THE CONSOLIDATION OF ITS DEMOCRACY HOWEVER I CAN.' PARTY PREFERENCES? 'WE ARE DISPOSED TO COOPERATE WITH ANY GOVERNMENT ELECTED BY THE SPANISH PEOPLE.' COMMUNISTS INCLUDED? THE NEW AMBASSADOR ANSWERS: 'IF THE PEOPLE CHOOSE THEM; BUT WOULD THE SPANISH CHOOSE THE COMMUNISTS?' AND HE SMILES.

4. "THIS SAME INTIMACY WITH CARTER PERMITS HIM TO SAY THAT THERE WILL NOT BE A VISIT SOON TO MADRID, NOT EVEN IN PASSING DURING HIS JULY TRIP TO GERMANY. 'THE PRESIDENT WANTS TO VISIT SPAIN, BUT COMFORTABLY, NOT FOR ONLY A FEW HOURS. HIS AGENDA STILL HAS NOT PERMITTED THIS, BUT WITHOUT DOUBT HE WILL WHEN IT PERMITS.'

5. "HE KNOWS THAT HIS MISSION IN MADRID WILL NOT BE A BED OF ROSES. THE TWO MOST IMPORTANT PROBLEMS...
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ARE 'THE SECURITY OF THE WEST' AND 'THE ECONOMY.' SECURITY OF THE WEST IS THE KEY PHRASE THAT BEGINS TO BE USED FOR THE COMPLETE INTEGRATION OF OUR COUNTRY INTO THE WESTERN DEFENSIVE SYSTEM. AMBASSADOR TODMAN WANTS TO PROMOTE THIS 'BECAUSE BOTH COUNTRIES ARE INTERESTED IN THIS COMMON SECURITY.' HE DOES NOT WANT TO TALK ABOUT OUR ENTRY INTO NATO, FOR ACCORDING TO THE RULES THIS IS LEFT TO THE DECISION OF THE SPANISH PEOPLE, BUT FROM THERE BEGIN THE SHOTS. CONCERNING THE TREATIES BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES: 'THEY ARE WORKING WELL IN ALL ASPECTS AND WHEN THE TIME COMES WE WILL SEE WHAT IS TO BE DONE WITH THEM.' AND 'THERE IS NOT THE LEAST REQUEST TO CONTINUE USING ROTA AS A NUCLEAR BASE AFTER JULY OF NEXT YEAR...'

6. "CONCERNING THE ECONOMY, HE IS DISPOSED TO PROMOTE TRADE OF ALL TYPES AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE... AND 'WE UNDERSTAND THE NECESSITIES OF DEVELOPING NUCLEAR ENERGY IN SPAIN, THERE BEING DISCUSSED IN THESE MOMENTS THE NEW AGREEMENT FOR THE SUPPLY OF RADIOACTIVE MATERIALS FOR THESE STATIONS.'

7. "HE GOES TO SPAIN HOPEFUL AND CONTENT. HE KNOWS THAT MUCH WORK AWAITS HIM, BUT NOT ONLY THAT: 'I KNOW I WILL FIND THERE A HOSPITABLE AND FRIENDLY PEOPLE, PROUD OF WHAT THEY ARE AND OF WHAT THEY RECENTLY HAVE ACHIEVED.' NO, IT WILL NOT BE DIFFICULT TO BE A FRIEND OF THE NEW AMERICAN AMBASSADOR IN MADRID."

8. JUAN YUSTE FOR EL PAIS (INDEPENDENT LIBERAL LEFT): "THE NEW AMBASSADOR...YESTERDAY EXPRESSED HIS INTENTION TO COOPERATE WITH AND SUPPORT AS MUCH

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AS POSSIBLE THE SPANISH DEMOCRATIC PROCESS, AT THE SAME TIME ASSURING THAT WASHINGTON HAS NO PREFERENCES AMONG THE SPANISH POLITICAL PARTIES AND WOULD, BECAUSE OF THESE, ACCEPT ANY DEMOCRATICALLY ELECTED GOVERNMENT...

9. "MR. TODMAN HAD WORDS OF PRAISE FOR THE MANNER IN WHICH THE DEMOCRATIC TRANSITION IN SPAIN HAS TAKEN PLACE AND SAID IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT TO FIND A BETTER RECORD IN ANY OTHER COUNTRY. ASKED...ABOUT THE LEVEL OF NEUTRALITY THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT WOULD MAINTAIN IN RESPECT TO SPANISH POLITICAL LIFE OR TO THE

POSSIBLE ARRIVAL OF THE SOCIALISTS TO POWER, THE
NEW AMBASSADOR ANSWERED THAT 'FOR US ONLY THE PEOPLE
CAN DECIDE WHO IS GOING TO GOVERN, AND WE ARE DISPOSED
TO ACCEPT WHATEVER GOVERNMENT THAT IS ELECTED.'
WHEN PRESSED WHETHER THIS WOULD INCLUDE THE COMMUNIST
PARTY, HE SAID: 'IF THE SPANISH PEOPLE CHOOSES IT,
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WHY NOT?"

10. ANTONIO PARRA FOR ARriba (GOVERNMENT ORIENTED):
"TODMAN MADE IT CLEAR THAT THE CARTER GOVERNMENT FEELS
REALLY IMPRESSED BY THE WAY EVERYTHING WENT IN THE
DEMOCRATIZING PROCESS. 'I AM CERTAIN THAT IT WILL BE
FOR ME A LEARNING PROCESS, FOR WHICH I HAVE BEEN
PREPARING MYSELF FOR A LONG TIME HERE IN NEW YORK AND
IN WASHINGTON.'

11. "IN TERENCE TODMAN IS FOUND ONE OF THE BEST
EQUIPPED INTELLECTUAL FIGURES EVER TO REPRESENT THE
UNITED STATES IN SPAIN. IT IS ALSO SAID OF TODMAN
THAT HE WAS THE PRINCIPAL ADVISOR OF PRESIDENT
CARTER IN LATIN AMERICA AND ALSO A GREAT CHAMPION
OF THE CAUSE OF HUMAN RIGHTS.

12. "IN REFERENCE TO THE MILITARY COOPERATION
BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES, MR. TODMAN EMPHASIZED
THAT THIS FUNCTIONS IN LIGHT OF THE ENTRY OF SPAIN
INTO NATO IN 1981, ALTHOUGH HE GAVE THE UNDERSTANDING
THAT THIS IS NOT A URGENT MATTER. 'I AM SURE THAT
IN THE END THERE WILL BE AN AGREEMENT. BUT MY
COUNTRY DOES NOT WISH TO PROMOTE INTERFERENCES OF
ANY TYPE.'

13. "FINALLY, HE SAID THAT THE CAMPAIGN ORCHESTRATED
AGAINST HIM IN PRESS SECTORS WAS A DEFAMATORY FALSE-
HOOD 'COMING FROM PERSONS ALIENATED BY THE HUMAN
RIGHTS POLICY OF MR. CARTER.' IN SPITE OF EVERYTHING,
THE IMPRESSION TODMAN HAS CAUSED HERE IS VERY GOOD.
IT COULD BE SAID THAT HE COULD NOT ENTER SPAIN ON
A BETTER NOTE."

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14. GUSTAVO VALVERDE FOR YA (CATHOLIC CENTRIST):
"THE UNITED STATES HAS NO PREFERENCES IN FAVOR OF

ANY SPANISH POLITICAL GROUP AND IS DISPOSED TO COOPERATE WITH WHATEVER GOVERNMENT THAT COMES OUT OF ELECTIONS. THE DECISION OVER WHO GOVERNS, INCLUDING THE CASE IF THE SPANISH PEOPLE WERE TO CHOOSE A SOCIALIST OR COMMUNIST GOVERNMENT, WILL BE RESPECTED BY THE UNITED STATES, TERENCE TODMAN...DECLARED YESTERDAY.

15. "AS IN THE CASE OF YUGOSLAVIA, THE UNITED STATES IS DISPOSED TO COOPERATE WITH ANY SPANISH GOVERNMENT, AMBASSADOR TODMAN ALSO SAID TO A GROUP OF PRESS CORRESPONDENTS...HIS MISSION IN MADRID -- HE DECLARED -- IS PRIMARILY ORIENTED TOWARD BUILDING UPON THE EXCELLENT FOUNDATIONS ALREADY EXISTING IN SPANISH-AMERICAN RELATIONS. WE INTEND TO COOPERATE, HE ADDED, IN THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTIONS THAT SPAIN IS BUILDING. 'I BELIEVE THAT IN NO OTHER COUNTRY THERE EXISTS A BETTER RECORD THAN THE DEMOCRATIC PROGRESS REALIZED BY SPAIN.

16. "CONCERNING THE U.S. MILITARY BASES IN SPANISH TERRITORY, MR. TODMAN DECLARED THAT THE QUESTION OF THEIR RENOVATION OR CLOSING WILL NOT PRESENT ITSELF UNTIL 1981, AND UNTIL THEN, THERE 'REMAINS PLENTY OF TIME TO DECIDE' ONE WAY OR ANOTHER.

17. "HE DID NOT WISH TO ADDRESS THE QUESTION OF THE ENTRY OF SPAIN INTO NATO. ON THE TOPIC OF GIBRALTAR HE DECLARED THE UNITED STATES WOULD WISH TO SEE AN ACCEPTABLE SOLUTION TO THIS PROBLEM BETWEEN ENGLAND AND SPAIN. ON THE RETIREMENT OF POLARIS SUBMARINES FROM THE ROTA BASE, NO CHANGE HAS BEEN MADE TO DATE PROGRAMMED FOR THEIR EVACUATION, HE ADDED."

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18. WIRE SERVICE "EFE" FOR DIARIO 16 (LEFT SENSATIONALIST): "THE INTEGRATION OF SPAIN INTO THE DEFENSE FRAMEWORK OF THE WEST IS THE PRINCIPAL THEME IN THE RELATIONS OF SPAIN WITH THE UNITED STATES, THE NEW AMBASSADOR...DECLARED YESTERDAY...TODMAN MADE AN IMPASSIONED EULOGY FOR THE SPANISH POLITICAL SITUATION AND PROMISED TO COOPERATE WITH ALL OF HIS ENERGIES IN SUPPORT OF THE DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTIONS.

19. "IN AN IMPROVISED PRESS CONFERENCE...THE AMBASSADOR STATED THAT HIS GOVERNMENT IS DISPOSED TO COLLABORATE WITH ALL OF THE GOVERNMENTS THAT THE SPANISH PEOPLE CHOOSES, INCLUDING A COMMUNIST GOVERNMENT IF IT IS DEMOCRATICALLY ELECTED... ON THE SUBJECT OF INCORPORATION INTO THE DEFENSE OF THE WEST, HE DID NOT MENTION THE ENTRY OF SPAIN INTO NATO, BUT UNDERLINED THE ROLE SPAIN SHOULD PLAY IN EUROPEAN SECURITY."

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20. FELIPE SAHAGUN FOR INFORMACIONES (CENTRIST) UNDER FRONT PAGE HEADLINE "WASHINGTON WOULD ACCEPT A COMMUNIST GOVERNMENT IN SPAIN -- ACCORDING TO TODMAN, NEW AMERICAN AMBASSADOR IN MADRID:" "MR. TODMAN...FIRMLY DEFENDED THE HUMAN RIGHTS POLICY OF THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION, DESCRIBED AS 'PURELY AN INVENTION AND A LIE' THE CRITICISMS PUBLISHED IN THE SPANISH PRESS AGAINST HIS ATTITUDE TOWARD HUMAN RIGHTS, AND EXPRESSED THE DESIRE THAT SPAIN AND GREAT BRITAIN SOLVE THE PROBLEM OF GIBRALTAR PEACEFULLY AND IN FRIENDLY FASHION." REMAINDER OF STORY SIMILAR OTHER PRESS REPORTS.

21. IN THE FIRST EDITORIAL COMMENTARY TO APPEAR, ABEL HERNANDEZ WRITES FOR INFORMACIONES: "MR. TODMAN COMES PRECEDED BY CERTAIN INCONSIDERATE ATTACKS -- A HARD MAN, NO FRIEND OF HUMAN RIGHTS, ETC. -- AND EVIDENTLY WANTED TO IMPROVE HIS IMAGE AND DEMONSTRATE HIS LIBERALISM, A DEFENDER OF HUMAN RIGHTS SCRUPULOUSLY RESPECTFUL OF THE DEMOCRATIC WILL OF THE SPANISH PEOPLE. THE ANGELICAL MR. TODMAN WENT SO FAR IN THIS THAT HE EVEN ADMITTED THAT HIS COUNTRY WOULD DO NOTHING TO IMPEDE A LEFTIST GOVERNMENT IN SPAIN IF IT WERE DEMOCRATICALLY ELECTED. EVEN A COMMUNIST GOVERNMENT.

22. "THIS MEANS ONE OF TWO THINGS: EITHER MR. TODMAN IS PULLING OUR LEG OR THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION HAS TURNED 180 DEGREES IN ITS POLICY FOR THE DISTRIBUTION OF INFLUENCES IN EUROPE. IS AMERICA DISPOSED TO PERMIT SPAIN TO BE DISCONNECTED FROM ATLANTIC DEFENSE? WHY WAS THE PRESENCE OF COMMUNISTS IN THE ITALIAN UNCLASSIFIED

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GOVERNMENT RECENTLY OPPOSED? WHY DID THE CARTER GOVERNMENT RECEIVE SOCIALIST LEADER FELIPE GONZALEZ WITH OFFICIAL HONORS IN WASHINGTON WHILE OFFICIALLY IGNORING THE VISIT OF THE COMMUNIST CARRILLO? WHY HAS THERE BEEN AMERICAN MONEY FOR THE SOCIALIST UGT LABOR UNION? TO JUDGE FROM THE DECLARATIONS OF MR. TODMAN, THE ARRIVAL OF THE COMMUNISTS TO POWER IN SPAIN BY THE ROAD OF THE BALLOT BOX WOULD NOT CHANGE THE PULSE OF THE LEADERS IN WASHINGTON. THESE DECLARATIONS APPEAR TO DEMONSTRATE THAT WASHINGTON DOES NOT FEAR THE IRREVERSABILITY OF POWER IN THE HANDS OF THE SPANISH EUROCOMMUNISTS. AN UNBELIEVABLE ADVANCE*

23. "IT COULD BE TRUE. RELIABLE SOURCES IN MADRID INSIST THAT WILLY BRANDT IS HEAVILY UNDERWRITING... THE ITALIAN EUROCOMMUNIST BERLINGUER, EVIDENTLY IN AN ATTEMPT TO REDIRECT ITALIAN EUROCOMMUNISM, GIVEN THE LACK OF A POWERFUL SOCIALIST PARTY, INTO SOCIALIST TERRAIN. IN SPAIN, THE FRONTIERS BETWEEN SOCIALISTS AND COMMUNISTS ARE DAILY MORE DILUTED, AND IF INDEED THEY ARE NOT ENTIRELY ERASED...IT IS TO AVOID REVITALIZING THE GHOSTS OF THE PAST AND DIVIDING THIS COUNTRY, ONCE AGAIN, INTO TWO IRRECONCILABLE FRONTS. IS IT INTENDED, IN ANY CASE, TO DOMESTICATE THE SOUTHERN EUROPEAN EUROCOMMUNISMS? SURELY, THE ONLY THING MR. TODMAN WANTED WAS TO COME TO SPAIN WITH THE IMAGE OF A LIBERAL, GUARANTEEING HIS SCRUPULOUS NEUTRALITY IN OUR INTERNAL AFFAIRS. WHAT

HAPPENS IS THAT, IN THESE THINGS, THERE IS MANY A
SLIP BETWEEN THE WORD AND THE DEED...THE ANGELICAL
MR. TODMAN WILL HAVE PLENTY OF WORK." RYLANCE

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